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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,
AND
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
OF THE
TOWN OF HOOKSETT,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1874.

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1874.

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1891

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ANNUAL REPORT

SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

OF THE

TOWN OF SHREVEPORT

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1871

WILLIAM H. MOORE AND SON, PRINTERS, SHREVEPORT, LA.

1871

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Paid State tax.....	\$2,790 00	
County tax.....	1,546 56	
	<hr/>	\$4,336 56
Paid School house tax in dist. No. 3	\$100 00	
" " " " 4	500 00	
For insurance on school house		
in district No. 4.....	60 00	
	<hr/>	\$660 00
School money in District No. 1	\$315 53	
" " " 2	314 08	
" " " 3	124 47	
" " " 4	684 05	
" " " 5	118 13	
" " " 6	103 64	
" " " 7	56 92	
	<hr/>	\$1,716 82

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Jesse Gault selectman.....	\$80 00
A. W. Prescott selectman.....	92 00

D. A. Kimball	“	38 00
G. A. Robie town clerk.....		20 00
G. A. Robie auditor.....		5 00
H. B. Otterson treasurer.....		20 00
Alvah M. Dam school committee		75 00
Henry E. Robie collector.....		147 18
		<hr/>

\$477 18

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Paid abatement on tax list 1871....	\$2 66
“ “ “ 1872....	11 76
“ “ “ 1873....	34 08
N. & Wm. F. Head abatement on their tax for 1872.....	20 00
Joseph Kennard abatement on his tax 1872.....	8 58
George C. Johnson abatement for error in tax.....	5 17
Eri Poor abatement for error in tax.....	1 23
	<hr/>

\$83 48

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid non-resident taxes in labor...	\$64 90
W. S. Wiggin labor on high- way in district No. 4.....	20 00
W. S. Wiggin labor on Ches- ter turnpike.....	24 25
C. Frazier for breaking roads	15 00
W. G. Averill labor on high-	

way in district No. 13	17 53
William Hardy labor on Ches-	
ter turnpike.....	50 00
E. T. Wentworth labor on	
highway.....	18 98
E. T. Wentworth labor on	
highway.....	13 25
J. C. Davis for land on river	
road.....	25 00
Isaac A. Barker for land on	
river road.....	35 00
E. P. Williams labor on high-	
way in district No. 16.....	18 45
M. Rady labor on Mammouth	
road.....	8 25
W. W. Wier labor on Mam-	
mouth road.....	8 35
M. French labor on highway.	1 75
L. Upham " " " .	2 50
J. Kimball " " " .	5 75
Eri Poor " " " .	19 05
E. T. Wentworth labor on	
highway.....	12 50
Kendrick Kimball labor on	
highway.....	7 50
Mayhew Clark breaking roads	4 73
C. Whittemore " " .	9 00
J. Davis labor on highway ..	90
H. Kimball labor on highway	13 45
J. Kimball " " White-	
hall road.....	4 50
J. L. Garland labor on White-	
hall road.....	5 00
L. Severance labor on White-	
hall road.....	5 00

A. F. Davis labor on highway	10 00	
A. W. Prescott " " "	2 00	
Webster, Morrill & Danforth for insurance on town bridge and lobby.....	83 00	
J. P. Robie lighting town bridge.....	20 00	
J. Dunlap for pine plank....	6 00	
	<hr/>	\$531 59

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid George A. Robie for writing town reports, 1873.....	\$5 00	
N. K. Lawrence taking care town hall, wood, lights, &c.	29 00	
E. E. Goodale for shingles, and labor on hearse house..	18 29	
G. A. Robie for iron-work on lobby	12 73	
O. J. Prescott for glass in town hall.....	75	
N. & W. F. Head for lumber	49 90	
H. Austin for sheep killed by dogs	30 00	
Dr. A. M. Dam for returning births and deaths.....	6 50	
A. Pereau for boarding and nursing Hannah Maloney, county charge.....	10 00	
W. H. Fisk for printing town reports, 1873.....	30 00	
E. B. Rhodes for damages on highway.....	30 00	

E. A. Robie for labor on lobby	8 00
P. H. Fuller for clapboards..	16 00
Alex. La Rose for boarding and nursing Amelia Good- year, county charge.....	14 00
Abbott & Now for stone for lobby	23 00
S. Hook for labor on lobby..	70 00
S. C. Forsaith & Co. for iron doors for lobby.....	42 00
J. S. Kidder & Co. for 20 casks cement.....	53 00
Sullivan Bros. for stove fun- nel, zinc, &c.....	14 07
E. Pronk for boarding work- men on lobby.....	6 30
J. P. Brock for chairs and ta- ble for lobby.....	7 95
H. Ford & Son for shingles, boards and planing for lobby	24 62
Hooksett Mfg. Co. iron-work and painting lobby.....	15 42
W. L. Morse & Co. coffin and robe for Corliss Volley coun- ty charge.....	10 00
Straw & Lovejoy for police badges	12 25
Baker & Fellows for provisions furnished Louisa Gay.....	7 50
Mrs. Heath for boarding Jane Wade and daughter, county charge.....	11 64
John B. Varick for mdse. for lobby	8 50
W. P. Short for wood deliv-	

ered J. Ordway.....	15 00
W. W. Hubbard for doors, windows, &c. for lobby....	38 30
Mrs. Morrill for bedding for lobby	8 00
Concord railroad for freight on lumber, cement, &c.....	5 14
Daniels & Co. for hardware for lobby.....	11 35
J. W. Prescott for labor on lobby	18 73
S. D. McAfee & Co. for gro- ceries delivered to Edward Lacount	20 12
Mayhew Clark for dinners, on road hearing.....	7 60
Sally Mitchell for rent on house to July 1, 1873.....	8 00
Sally Mitchell for rent on house, occupied by E. La- count county charge.....	16 00
M. C. Clark for dinners at commissioner hearing.....	3 00
Jesse Gault for cash paid to county charges, books, sta- tionary, &c.....	150 19
L. Goodnough for labor, ma- terial, &c. for lobby.....	99 24
L. Goodnough for repairing town hall.....	3 60
A. W. Prescott cash paid out on account of Mary George and daughter.....	34 88
A. W. Prescott for labor done on lobby.....	41 50

Eliza A. Roach for boarding Mary Wade county charge..	5 25
Eliza A. Roach for boarding Thomas and Hannah Dean county charge.....	15 00
A. M. Rowe for boarding and clothing Gibb's children to February 1, 1874.....	130 00
Joseph F. Brown for boarding and clothing Edgerly child to February 1, 1874.....	65 00
F. C. Towle for nails, lime, &c. for lobby.....	9 97
F. C. Towle for groceries de- livered E. Lacount, county charge.....	15 48
F. C. Towle for lamps and globes for town bridge.....	7 59
F. C. Towle for nails and spikes for culvert near lobby	2 32
F. C. Towle for broom, nails, &c. for lobby.....	2 29
F. C. Towle for groceries de- livered J. W. Prescott for poor house.....	4 04
F. C. Towle for groceries de- livered Mrs. Hamilton.....	2 76
D. Ordway for watering place 1873.....	3 00
R. B. Neal for watering place 1873.....	3 00
A. W. Prescott for watering place 1873.....	3 00
G. Colby for watering place	

1872.....	3 00	
M. Clark for watering place		↓
1872.....	3 00	
Eri Poor for watering place		
1872.....	3 00	
Ira Rowe for watering place		
1872.....	3 00	
N & W. F. Head for brick and lumber for lobby.....	266 40	
Dr. Horace Gage medical at- tendance on Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Ordway.....	15 00	
Dr. Horace Gage medical at- tendance on county paupers	44 25	
E. E. Goodale taking care of hearse, lobby, wood and pro- visions, furnished for tran- sient paupers.....	41 27	
Samuel Head for wood deliv- ered Mrs. Hamilton.....	15 50	
	<hr/>	\$1,710 19

RECEIPTS OF TREASURER.

Amount in hands treasurer March 1,	
1873.....	\$163 03
Received of H. E. Robie collector,	
1871-72-73.....	7,459 14
Merrimack County for support of paupers..	433 81
George A. Robie col- lector	600 00
Received savings bank tax.....	1,251 27

Received railroad tax.....	\$689 96
literary fund.....	89 38
insurance tax.....	15 00
N. K. Lawrence use of town hall.....	48 50
C. H. Robie lot in ceme- tery.....	6 00
E. G. Scribner lot in cem- etry.....	5 00
M. E. Atwood lot in cem- etry.....	5 00
	<hr/> \$10,766 09

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURES.

State tax.....	\$2790 00
County tax.....	1,546 56
School.house tax.....	660 00
School money.....	1,716 82
Town officers.....	477 18
Abatement of taxes.....	83 48
Roads and bridges.....	531 59
Miscellaneous bills.....	1,710 19
Balance in Treasury.....	1,250 27
	<hr/> \$10,766 09

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Milton McCoy note and interest.....	\$752 60	
Outstanding bills estimated.....	50 00	
		<hr/> \$802 60
Am't due the town for the support of county paupers since Feb. 1, 1874 estimated at.....	\$25 00	
Am't due on tax list of 1871-72 & 3	794 55	
Heirs of M. A. Remington lot in cemetery.....	6 00	
Amount in treasury.....	1,250 27	
		<hr/> \$2,075 82
Balance in favor of the town.....		\$1,273 22

JESSE GAULT, } *Selectmen*
A. W. PRESCOTT, } *of*
D. A. KIMBALL, } *Hooksett.*

This certifies that we have audited the treasurer's and selectmen's accounts and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

GEORGE A. ROBIE, } *Auditors.*
WALTER B. JONES, }

Hooksett, February 28, 1874.

SCHOOL REPORT.

DISTRICT NUMBER ONE.

Gen. Natt Head, prudential committee. The summer term in this district was commenced by Miss Emma Pronk, of Hooksett, who, in three weeks was obliged to resign on account of ill health. Miss Nellie Adams, of Pittsfield, finished this term, and taught the Fall term also. The improvement of the school under her charge was not such as to warrant your committee in recommending her for the Winter school.

The Winter term was taught by Miss Allie Putnam, of this town. Miss P. tried hard to make the school a success. Gave good satisfaction. She will make a good teacher. We are able to report good improvement in all the studies excepting grammar.

DISTRICT NUMBER TWO.

Luther Upham, prudential committee. There were three terms in this district, all taught by Miss Georgie Nute, of South Berwick, Me. She is a good teacher, and all the classes made good progress. An exercise of asking questions concerning and explaining practical matters outside of the text-books, which was here had, cannot be too highly recommended, and should be practiced by all teachers. The parents in this district seemed to be more interested in their school than in any other district in town.

DISTRICT NUMBER THREE.

W. S. Wiggins, prudential committee. There were two terms in this district, both taught by Miss Grace G. Robinson, of South Deerfield. It was her first attempt at teaching, but she kept an excellent school. With experience, she will make one of the best of teachers.

DISTRICT NUMBER FOUR.

Daniel S. Dutton, prudential committee. The primary school was taught by Miss Jennie Abbott, of Concord. We consider Miss Abbott a model teacher for a school of this grade.

She was faithful to her pupils, conducting herself with dignity and gentleness, with an affectionate regard for all her scholars. Her word and a look seemed to be sufficient to draw every pupil into cheerful submission.

The grammar school was *taught* by Miss M. C. Davis. She understood *what* to teach and *how* to teach. We never visited a better school.

If all would follow Mr. Dutton's example, and employ none but *first class* teachers, our schools would soon be in a better condition than they are at present.

DISTRICT NUMBER FIVE.

John Shirley, prudential committee. The summer term in this district was taught by Miss Carrie A. Kimball, of Hooksett. We heard no complaints. Improvement fair.

The Winter school was *kept* by Miss E. G. Stevens. She has not that "living genius, enriched by the experience of years" which every successful teacher must have. It was not a profitable school.

DISTRICT NUMBER SIX.

The late Eri Poor, prudential committee. There was but

one term in this district. It was taught by John P. Brown, of Bow. His method of instruction was good, and the scholars made good improvement.

DISTRICT NUMBER SEVEN.

O. J. Prescott, prudential committee. Miss Etta Prescott, of this town, taught both terms of school in this district, and all seemed pleased with the results. Improvement good.

REMARKS AND SUGGESTIONS.

We have given a brief history of the condition of the schools in town, some of them have not been what they should be, yet taken as a whole, we believe our schools stand as high as at any time past. While they are not what they should be the practical question presented for solution, is, how may they become more efficient?

Without attempting to answer this important question fully, but leaving it open for the careful consideration of all, we throw out a few hints. Should a greater degree of care be exercised in the selection of teachers, doubtless an essential improvement would be effected. Hence, let every prudential committee, throwing aside all favoritism, search out the teacher who has an undoubted reputation of competency as soon as possible; for those of capacity are usually secured at an early day; still if we have a teacher of capacity under consideration, care should be taken that no great amount of prejudice previous to engaging exists, as it would be likely to produce disastrous results.

But, says one, this argument falls to the ground, should the S. S. Committee discharge his duty faithfully; yet let it be borne in mind, that not unfrequently, the applicant does

not *ask* for an examination till a few days previous to the time when the school is expected to commence, and it is pretty certain by this time, that the best teachers are engaged, a person of ordinary ability must either be accepted, or the district subjected to disappointment, and run the hazard of not being served in an efficient manner. We have merely a *veto* power. We may reject—we cannot nominate. We will not throw all the blame upon the prudential committees, for we are well aware that we have given certificates in a number of instances, when they should have been withheld, and should refuse them if again placed in like circumstances.

The public school teacher who rightly appreciates her position as such, is truly worthy in all cases of our warmest sympathies and earnest co-operation.

We commit to her care, a most sacred trust, a trust, that demands her entire energies, and one that should not be committed to ordinary, but only to those who possess extraordinary minds. It requires an experienced hand and cultivator to rear the vine to beauty, thrift and fruit; to take away superfluous growth in one place and to train each part in the right direction, requires constant watchfulness and care. The task of the mental cultivator is far more arduous. The youthful mind is to receive proper direction. Often the teacher's task is to do what others have not done, and to undo what others have wrongly done. Vicious habits and tendencies are to be checked, and in their place correct principles installed. Habits of industry and mental thrift to take the place of idleness. Promptness in the line of duty to supplant tardiness and inattention. The entire course of thought and feeling often requires a change. Manners in and out of the school room, with the accustomed conversational habits and common use of language, are to be corrected. Hence it requires women of more than common intellectual culture for this position.

The notion prevails that any one can instruct small children ; no extensive acquirements are thought to be necessary for her who is to teach the alphabet and multiplication table ; no great skill in government for her who has only a dozen or a score of little ones to manage, she must work for a miserable pittance. Hence, in the school of little children, beginners and indifferent teachers are not always, but often found together. It is a less tax upon ingenuity, skill, and personal resources of all sorts to interest, instruct, and train children too young to study set lessons, than to hear the recitations of older pupils ? The question needs no answer from us. Will it be contended that less time need be expended in previous culture and preparation by the primary teacher than by another ? This is the ground taken by too many—a strange and ruinous mistake. It must be corrected before school instruction will accomplish what it should.

In our opinion, the idea that prudential committees should be chosen in regular order, A. acting this year, B next, and so on in rotation, is a *humbug*. Some men are just as unfit to engage a teacher as they would be to teach school. Choose those men for prudential committees who are interested in the cause of education, and who will exercise due care in the selection of teachers, and will look after the interests of our common schools. *Remember the efficiency of your school depends far more upon the quality of your prudential committee than upon the efforts of, or efficiency of your S. S. Committee.*

It is desirable that all schools should be supplied with school apparatus. Each district should furnish their school with a set of out line maps, a cheap globe, and an Unabridged Dictionary. In regard to studies pursued, we believe that reading should be made a *study*, instead of the *farce* it has been made in many of our schools. We believe less time should be given to written arithmetic, and more attention bestowed upon mental arithmetic. During the past

year, arithmetic has claimed the attention of some scholars to the too great exclusion of other branches. Our best scholars in mathematics, with scarcely an exception, are those who know something else; and those that give their whole attention to arithmetic, seldom progress in this branch as those who have two or three studies beside. The exclusive attention which has been bestowed upon arithmetic, is traditional, and doubtless is owing to the great honor which was anciently bestowed upon commerce in this branch; but now no such distinction attaches to the honor of being a superior mathematician as is accorded to him who claims equally the honor of being master of his vernacular language, or possessing a geographical knowledge of the planet on which he lives, its composition, and the philosophy of its forces.

Before closing these remarks, reference is made to the erroneous idea that the larger the space rushed over, the greater the scholarship. This opinion has induced some scholars to skim over the surface, thus sacrificing mental culture, and rendering less certain, that the foundation of literary researches will ever be had. Attention is also called to the fact that teachers who fail in attainments, usually lack more in not possessing clear and distinct ideas even in the rudiments, than in the extent of their acquirements, therefore, may each who assumes the responsibility of teaching, not be hemmed in by stereotyped questions and answers, but be acquainted with the principles underlying the different branches to be taught. Much more might be said in relation to school management on various topics, but propriety suggests a close. In conclusion, it is earnestly desired that these sweeping suggestions may be tested—that by a practical application, our schools may be essentially benefited.

ALVAH M. DAM,

Supt. School Committee.

Hooksett, Feb. 28, 1874.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

District No.	Term.	TEACHERS.	Length of Term.	No. of Scholars.	Average Attendance	No. in Arithmetic.	No. in Grammar.	No. in Geography.	No. in Reading.	No. in Spelling.	No. in Penmanship	No. in History.	No. in Physiology.	No. in Algebra.
1	Summer	Nellie Adams	9	23	21	18	5	7	23	23	14	4		
	Fall	" "	10	25	23	18	4	10	25	25	14	3		
	Winter	Allie Putnam	11	19	18	17	6	13	19	19	7	2		
2	Summer	Georgie Hale	10	40	33	34	11	16	40	40	20	4	2	
	Fall	" "	12	48	40	41	6	16	48	48	21	8	2	
	Winter	" "	12	35	29	35	6	15	35	35	23	3	1	3
3	Summer	Grace Robinson	10	14	12	11	5	5	14	13	8			1
	Fall	" "	14	17	11	14	5	5	17	17	10	7		1
4	Summer	M. C. Davis	11	18	14	18	13	4	18	18	17			
*	Fall	" "	12	23	18	23	12	4	23	23	21	7	1	
	Winter	" "	10	30	24	30	21	6	30	30	19	7		
†	Summer	Jennie Abbott	11	58	48	24		12	58	58	20			
	Fall	" "	12	52	43	18		12	52	52	23			
	Winter	" "	10	50	42	25		18	50	50	25			
5	Summer	Carrie Kimball	7	14	11	9		6	14	14	5			
	Winter	Eliza W. Stevens	11	15	13	13		7	15	14	10			
6	Winter	John P. Brown	11	12	8	8	2	3	12	12	3			1
7	Summer	Etta Prescott	8	10	8	5		3	10	10	4			
	Winter	" "	8	12	92	8		6	12	11	7			

STATISTICAL TABLE

GENERAL INFORMATION	
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1874

FISK'S

1874

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FISK Manufactures all kinds Window Shades.

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Sells at Wholesale and Retail Cheap.

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work at the same low prices.

MANCHESTER, N. H., March, 1874.

WILLIAM H. FISK.